

# Nashville Union.

For Freedom and Nationality.

H. C. MERCER, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 25, 1862.

## A Retrospect.

This morning brings in what is, or ought to be, the holiday of all Christians. It is the Eighteenth hundred and sixty second anniversary of the birth-day of the greatest teacher of philanthropy, and wisdom that the world ever saw. The basis of the system of religion which he taught was love, which distinguished it from the other system of religion which were held by the nations of the earth. Mahomet and other false prophets trusted to the sword to establish their doctrines, but the Author of Christianity appealed solely to the hearts and judgments of the people. Spreading a banner of celestial light from one end of the world to the other, he traced the word Love upon its folds, and exclaimed, "By this thou shalt conquer." Time rolled onward, until at last in the lapse of years, America became a nation. The birth of our government seemed blessed with peculiarly propitious circumstances. We were not only a civilized, Christian people, but were uncorrupted by the vices of the old world, and far removed from contact with the deleterious influences which had been the plague of European governments. Our infant Republic was based upon the rights of man, and recognized not only the right but the capability of man to govern himself. We had not only great political and moral advantages, but also material, and physical advantages, without limit in rich soil, endless variety of climate, and every natural facility for commercial intercourse. There was nothing left for us to desire, for Providence seemed to have anticipated all our wishes, and taxed its boundless treasures to gratify them to the utmost. As Minerva, the Goddess of wisdom, was said to have sprang forth from the brow of Jupiter, in matured strength and beauty, so Columbia

"Sprang forth a Palms, armed and undefiled," upon the theatre of action. Millions hailed her advent from one end of the civilized world to the other, for they hoped that she would set so glorious an example to the rest of the world, that other nations, would follow her footsteps, adopt her policy, and make their citizens free, prosperous, and happy, like her own. So great was our prosperity that immigrants from all countries flocked to our shores, to share in our good fortune. Men grew rich in a day, cities sprang up as if by magic, and all kinds of business prospered, until we literally revelled in an excess of wealth and power. Strangely, sadly different is now the scene of dismay, desolation, darkness and death which now surrounds us. Like the doomed suitors of Penelope, at their last banquet, before the avenging bow of Ulysses spread death in their ranks, visions of blood meet our eyes on every side. We hear the roar of cannon, in the morning, and lie down at night while the earth trembles with the shock of battle. The scene reminds us of Sathiel's description of the burning of the Amphitheatre at Rome, where all the wild beasts of the jungles and deserts of Africa broke loose from their burning cages, and clutched each other's throats in a last terrible death-struggle, amid the roar of the surrounding flames. Never was nation so smitten with frenzy; never did people engage in civil butchery so causelessly and foolishly. Despite of the falsehoods of newspapers and partisans, this great fact is incontrovertible: That corrupt politicians dragged the South into rebellion, because the people had voted them out of office. This has been recorded by the finger of God himself, on the page of history, and posterity will remember the declaration forever. Neither lying excuses, nor gilded declamation, can conceal this simple statement of the case from the eyes of mankind. It will remain in letters of living light until time shall be no more. It is awful to contemplate such folly, and wickedness. Is this all that we have learned from Christianity, and is it thus we have used the ten talents of Liberty, law, religion, independence, nationality, democracy, power, wealth, commerce, and invention, which God loaned us from the treasury of heaven? To us this serene Christmas morning appears to rise, like the spirit of a crucified Christ, to reproach us for the commission of an inexcusable crime against the human race. Had we stain-

ed our souls with the sin of insurrection, — the enormous sin of rebelling against the solemnly expressed voice of the people, which we had sworn to obey, we would feel like flying from the face of our fellow men forever. Better be a savage, a tiger, a hyena, than a citizen of Christian, enlightened America, with the blood of this rebellion upon one's hands. When conscience calls these Southern leaders to their last account, the remorse which will seize upon their souls, will be fiercer than the torments of the damned. It is an awful crime to sin so foully, against light and knowledge. If a man, be religious and have, erred by joining in this rebellion, let him begin his repentance this morning by forsaking the cause of treason, and enlisting heartily on the side of good morals and government. Rebellion and Christianity cannot go together; rebellion, and hypocrisy, and cant, very probably may. Rebellion is a sin not only against the Constitution, but against the laws of God, and we know of no better day to forsake and renounce it, than this anniversary of the birth-day of Him who came into the world to proclaim universal liberty, and to destroy the arch rebel and traitor, Satan, and all his angels.

An opaque Indiana paper, calling itself the *Vincennes Sun*, but distinguished for the Egyptian darkness of its pages, hopes that Gen. McCLELLAN will arrest and imprison the President and his Cabinet, disperse Congress, and drive the Eastern States out of the Union! This chattering little magpie calls itself a conservative journal, and tries to be very severe upon all persons who want to fight the Southern rebellion vigorously, branding them all by the dreadful name of Radical. Now the fact is that the most radical and incendiary newspapers are such as the *Vincennes Sun*. They have but one passion, and that is for power, and so their friends get office, and divide the spoils with them and other camp followers, they are utterly reckless of the means by which the offices are got and held. The difference between a liberal patriot, and a bigoted partisan in the present crisis of the country is very strongly marked. The patriot thinks not of his former opposition to Mr. LINCOLN or Mr. SEWARD, but how he may most efficiently aid them in delivering the country from its troubles. Far from exulting at dissensions in the Cabinet, and disasters in the field, he laments them with all sincerity, and puts forward all his energies to avert their evil consequences. Not so with such partisans as the editor of the *Sun*, or VALLANDIGHAM. They decry every measure, and denounce every appointment of the Administration. They assail its policy with as much ferocity as do the politicians at Richmond. Hardly can they repress their delight at reverses to the national arms. They would exult if some Military chief of their own party were to drive the President out of Washington and establish himself there as a dictator. Their newspapers never utter one sentiment of hearty, outspoken love of the Union; on the contrary they sneer at the Union because LINCOLN is its President. The editor of the *Sun* is a fool, we admit, but he is a traitor just as far as his brains will allow him to be one. It is melancholy to see men so besotted and blinded with old partisan malignity, that they would see their country perish before they would help a political adversary to sour it. Such wretches cannot long talk and act treason with impunity. If the nation shall have strength to go through the ordeal which she is now travelling, her vengeance will fall with crashing weight upon the heads of all who now seek to turn her misfortunes to partisan profit and advantage.

A body of rebel cavalry, under command of ASHEY, went to Lebanon, on Wednesday of last week, and helped themselves to supplies of various sorts, among others a lot of flour. The rascals went to the farm of ex-Governor Campbell, helped themselves to forage abundantly, and left a \$20 Confederate bill in payment. This was adding insult to injury, but the scamps, no doubt, thought it was an excellent joke.

Rumor has been busy for some days, with the tale that great reinforcements were on their way from Virginia to join Bragg's army. The story is an idle one, as the rebels have no soldiers to spare from the Old Dominion. Despite our apparent poor success on the Rappahannock the Richmond dynasty are trembling for the safety of their Capital. The least peril which we have to expect menaces us from the horizon of Virginia, despite the croakings of the timid and faint-hearted.

## Matters at Washington.

Quartermaster-General MILES, at Washington, is receiving a heavy load of censure for his strange delay in sending transportation to General BURNSIDE before the battle of Fredericksburg. His delay gave the rebels ample time to fortify, and make the successful passage of the Rappahannock impossible. MILES has been under suspicion for some time. His associations are bad. He is a South Carolinian, and stood very high with BRECKINRIDGE and his friends, and he is said to have been a great friend of JEFF DAVIS. There is a mystery surrounding many of the bureau at Washington. Notorious partisans of the Southern Confederacy were retained in office there, for months after the accession of Mr. LINCOLN. The President is so anxious to be fair and impartial, that he even grants favors to men who hate him. He has less of the partisan, probably, in his nature, than any President we have ever had. He carries his generosity entirely too far to get along smoothly, and prosecute his Administration successfully. He is so excessively liberal that his council of State has but little unity. He was elected as a Republican President, and his Administration has been anything but Republican. It has been, Border State, Conservative, Democratic Conservative, Union Democratic, and in fact anything and everything save Republican. His appointees, instead of harmonizing, have been perpetually warring with each other, and the policy of the war has been as changeable as the hues of a chameleon. Now an indifferent policy steadily and unwaveringly followed, is far more likely to attain success than a new policy adopted each day, although it be a good one. A man can live more comfortably by taking up his residence in a hot, permanent, than by moving from one palace to another a dozen times a day. We are for JACKSON'S motto, on this point, and want to see the Cabinet a unit. Mr. LINCOLN must see that he gains no credit and no strength from his opponents, by elevating them to office, to the exclusion of those who supported him. Generals HALLECK, McCLELLAN, BUELL, STANTON, and perhaps fifty other prominent appointees, are all Democrats, and what have they contributed to strengthening his hands in the day of adversity? These men have had the management of the war, and the Nation feels and sees the painful results. Let Mr. LINCOLN take the responsibility, and use his power like a hero. He will never deliver the country so long as he attempts to keep in favor with everybody. Let him turn the river of proscription loose upon the Augean stables in Washington.

## From Murfreesboro'.

A negro of shrewdness and intelligence arrived here yesterday from Murfreesboro, the great headquarters of the rebel military forces in this State for the present. He states that the prominent rebel citizens of that town and county, are moving out of the State as fast as possible, with all their movable property. This would appear to be a very decided indication that the intelligent rebels in the vicinity of Bragg's army, do not hope for any movement on this place, and are merely anticipating the Confederate troops retreating out of Tennessee. We learn also from another source of undoubted authority, which we are not at liberty to specify, that Bragg's army is fed with very great difficulty, being almost wholly dependent upon supplies brought by the cars from Chattanooga. These supplies are consumed as fast as they are received and it is impossible for the rebels to accumulate provisions far enough ahead to enable them to make a movement upon this place. Bragg's army will soon be forced to fall back.

One CONWAY, of Kansas, offered a string of foolish resolutions in the House of Representatives, the other day, virtually recognizing the rebel government. On motion of Hon. HORACE MAYNARD, they were tabled, yes, one hundred and thirty-two, says one; one being the dauntless CONWAY. The best thing CONWAY can now do is to go home, and sell himself for skunk bait.

How IT WORKS.—A gentleman just from the South informs the Indianapolis Journal that the rebel government has granted permission to all its soldiers who own twenty slaves or more, to return home to provide for the next year's planting, and crops, and to look out for the operation of the emancipation proclamation. The poorer soldiers, who have wives and children, and few or no slaves, at home, don't like such a distinction, and it has created a good deal of ill feeling among the "white trash," who make up five-sixths of the rebel army.

## A French Opinion—What Foreign Intervention May Do.

[From the Paris Journal des Debats.] We shall not raise any questions here of morality or justice; we shall not ask those of our brethren in the press who are daily clamoring for a European crusade against the American Union, what the Union has done to France, what wrong it has perpetrated against us, what right divine or human, it has violated in obeying that instinct of self-preservation which is common to states as to men, and in making desperate effort to resist dismemberment, abasement, and the loss of rank in the world. Nor shall we pause to remark that the Union is no more bound before God and man to furnish us with cotton than France, torn asunder by revolution and civil war, was bound in 1792 to furnish Europe with its ordinary contingent of wines and silks; and that to give currency to such motives for war is to accustom man to take the life of his fellow creature without being able to allege a decent pretext for the deed. We shall say nothing of slavery, nor of the banner of France, which shielded the cradle of that republic. We know that such arguments are unseasonable now; that it is fashionable to day to smile at them, and that the charms of a bad cause now exercise, upon a great number of our cotemporaries, the same mighty influence which the words of liberty and justice possessed over the hearts of our fathers. Let us drop all arguments, fit only to be addressed to the soul, and deal with material interest alone, that unchallenged sovereign of the actual world we live in. Why does England hesitate to act—England, which is more interested than any other State in the destruction of the American Republic? \* \* \* Every morning, in the land of Wilberforce, the voice of a hundred journals is raised to heaven imploring the divine malediction on the arms of the slaveholders. The slaveholding journals of Paris may do their worst, they will never be as English on the American questions as their London cotemporaries. But the passions of England are always tempered by prudence, and if, on the other side of the channel, the patriotic wish that the Union may be whipped is universal, the idea of meddling in the strife is very far from being popular. Perhaps the touch of the foreign foot upon American soil may after all be needed to rouse the whole nation to one man, and bring the real peril of the state before all eyes. Perhaps the foreign flag must float at New Orleans beside the banner of slavery before the farmer of the West can fully feel that the mouths of the great Mississippi really make a part of his splendid heritage and that his country stretches there. When that day shall come either the very stones will spring to arms in America, or the American people will have deserved their doom, and will have lived as a great nation only long enough to show us how great nations may come to nothingness.

IMPOSITION UPON SOLDIERS' FAMILIES.—Fortunes are being made, at the expense of the surviving friends of our dead soldiers, by undertakers and embalmers at Washington. A bill of \$700 was lately paid, simply for embalming and shipping a body from Antietam. The freight was additional. "Speculating undertakers locate themselves in the vicinity of every battle-field, and drive their vocation among those who come to look for their dead. Officers have no means of giving other attention to letters received concerning those in their command, who may be killed than to hand over the correspondence to some of these undertakers. From their heavy charges there is no escape. Payment in advance secures them from loss, and their motto is, "take it." Habit renders them insensible to sympathy. If there is trouble in finding a body upon the battle-field, the cost is in proportion. As high as \$300 has been paid for this service alone. —Phil. U. S. Gazette.

The New York Commercial Advertiser says that on Saturday afternoon between the hours of three and six o'clock, in and about and in front of Willard's Hotel alone, over one hundred officers of the army were smoking and chatting and laughing and having a good time generally, and all this while a great battle was said to be progressing at Fredericksburg.

The daily product of the wells and blocks now in operation at the salt works in Saginaw, Michigan, is not less than two thousand barrels, worth, at the wholesale prices which ruled just before the close of navigation, six thousand dollars. Allowing 300 running days in a year, the annual product, at this rate, would be 600,000 barrels, worth \$1,800,000. But the product, in a year to come, will be much more, from the fact that new works are coming into operation.

The taxable property of California, as reported in the annual reports of the State Comptroller, amounts to about \$120,000,000. Of this it is no extravagant estimate to say that San Francisco owns one-third.

The Earl of Elgin relinquished a fat berth when he left India. His predecessor went there a pauper peer, and returned to England with \$1,200,000. The little Duke of Argyll succeeds Elgin. He is a poor devil with but half a million of income, and it is an act of charity to give him something.

## Deserters and Absentees.

A Washington correspondent of the New York Post says: There is a loud demand for some sort of legislation or War Department regulations which shall compel absentee officers and privates to return to their duty. One of our morning papers makes the extraordinary statement that there are 100,000 men and officers between Washington and Philadelphia doing nothing. This is, doubtless, an exaggeration, but it is a fact of the eight hundred thousand men on the payrolls one hundred and fifty thousand are not where they can fight the enemy. There are one hundred thousand deserters this very hour from the army, and a prominent member of Congress, in conversation with Mr. Stanton a day or two since advised him, if he needed more troops to set his machinery to work for catching deserters. "You can do it quicker than you can raise troops by volunteering or the draft," said the member. The government can gather one hundred thousand runaway soldiers, which is a large army in itself, almost as large as that under Burnside.

NON-EXPLOSIVE BOMBSHELLS.—The Charleston (Mass.) Advertiser states that a letter received in that city from an officer on board the gunboat Dawn dated Verner river, Ga., says that of two lots of shells received by them from the gunboat Massachusetts, not one of them would explode, some persons having put a wet patch between the powder. These shells were all shipped from the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Navy Yard.

DIED.—On December 24th, PETER, infant son of Michael and Mary McCormack, aged 6 months and 4 days. The friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, at 2 o'clock, this afternoon, from their residence, 70 Cherry street.

In this city, on the 24th instant, Mr. JOHN M. ADAMS, aged 49 years. The friends and acquaintances are invited to attend his funeral this afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 52 Cedar street. Divine Service by Rev. Dr. Howell.

Masonic Notice.—The members of CUMBERLAND LODGE, No. 8, are hereby notified to meet at their Lodge Room, over Old Fellows' Hall, this (Thursday) afternoon at half past one o'clock, to attend the funeral of their late brother JOHN M. ADAMS. Members of other Lodges are respectfully invited to attend. By order of the W. M.

## New Advertisements.

THEATRE.—R. B. DUFFIELD, Manager. CLAUDE C. HAMILTON, Stage Manager. S. T. SIMONS, Treasurer. Thursday Evening, Dec. 25, 1862, KATE KEARNEY!

HUSBAND AT SIGHT! Friday Evening, Dec. 26, The Serious Family

THE DEAD SHOT! EXCHANGE.

Sight Checks on Louisville BOUGHT AND SOLD, BY A. G. SANFORD & CO.,

Extra Rich Furniture & Piano AT AUCTION, No. 42 PUBLIC SQUARE, (LATE HARTY BROS.)

I WILL SELL ON SATURDAY, DEC. 27th, AT 10 o'clock, an extra lot of Fine Furniture, consisting of Rosewood Parlor Furniture complete, (cost \$1,200) extra rich set of Cottage Furniture, (cost originally \$500) Rosewood Bed Room Furniture, (cost \$300) Oak Sideboard, Wardrobe, Marble top and other Tables, Hat Rack, Mahogany French Bedsteads; Spring, Hair and Moss Mattresses; Carpets, Stoves, &c., &c.

WANTED, A FIRST-CLASS SUTLER'S TENT, OR STOCK ALSO.

To Lessees of Market Stalls, and Others.

THE FIRST ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE MARKET requests the attention of all persons occupying stalls in the Market-house, as well as of those desiring to lease such stalls, to the 5th section of an act entitled "An Act to bring into the several laws relating to the Market-house," which reads as follows:

SEC. 8. On or before the first day of January, in each year, the First Assistant Clerk of the Market shall lease out the stalls of the market, under the Mayor's direction. He shall take from each lessee a lease with good security, to be approved by the Mayor, for the payment of the rent quarterly in advance. The term of the lease shall be made out by the Recorder.

Applications may be made to the undersigned, at his office in the Market-house.

THOMAS MCCARTHY, First Assistant Clerk of the Market-house, Dec. 24-1 Jan.

FOR FAMILY USE.

10,000 LBS. EXTRA "GAL-CURED" HAMS, 5,000 LBS. Extra Sugar-cured Clear Sides, 50 barrels Extra Family Flour.

For sale at McLAUGHLIN'S, Corner of College and Church streets, Dec. 24-25.

DINING SALOON AND RESTAURANT. 15 17

E. SPRAGUE, (Late of Camp Delmon, Ohio.) PROPRIETOR. Nos. 15 & 17 Cedar Street.

THIS ESTABLISHMENT HAS JUST BEEN renovated and entirely refitted, and we are now prepared to serve up Meals at all hours, and in the most stylish known to the culinary art. Our BILL OF FARE will consist of EVERY SEASONABLE ARTICLE KNOWN TO THE EPICURE.

We are determined to render the above, in point of comfort and respectability, the most popular place in Nashville. Our Police waiters always on hand to attend to the wants of its patrons. The very best brands of

TOBACCO, CIGARS, &c., always on hand, at moderate prices. Dec'd-3m

CHOICE GROCERIES, AT WHOLESALE.

Brown, Crushed and Powdered SUGAR, Cheese, Star Candles, Spices, TOBACCO, CIGARS, FRESH BUTTER, SODA, INDIGO, CONSTANTLY ARRIVING, AND FOR SALE to dealers and families on favorable terms. None but the best Articles kept. Give us a call, At WM. LYON'S STAND, MARKET STREET, Dec. 18-19 Between Church and Broad.

W. E. Childs & Co., BANKERS & BROKERS, No. 52 North College St., NASHVILLE, TENN. Highest Prices Paid for UNCURRENT MONEY, GOLD AND SILVER. Dec'd-17

W. Mat Brown & Co. GENERAL BUSINESS AGENCY, FOR SELLING REAL & PERSONAL ESTATE, Renting of Houses, Etc. PROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ALL business entrusted to their care. Office, No. 46 Cherry street, between Union and Dearborn. [Dec'd-19]

FOR RENT, THE FOUR HOUSES, CORNER BROAD and Market streets, occupied respectively by J. Storch, Druggist, Thos. Hobson, J. Longnette, and the one adjoining, now vacant. Also, two excellent DWELLING-HOUSES, on Summer street, the one occupied by Marie de Rooze, and the one adjoining. Occupancy can be had from the first of January, for the year 1863. For particulars, apply to W. G. MARRICK, Agent. Dec'd-3m

HORSES WANTED. CAVALRY HORSES WANTED, for which we will pay the highest market prices. They must be from five to eight years old, fifteen hands high, and of dark colors. Apply at the stable of P. A. HENDERSON, Cherry street, where either of the undersigned may be found. J. T. LEVAY, H. S. LYTER. Dec. 15-1m.

WANTED FOR CASH, Cotton Rags, Hemp and Damaged Cotton, Old Rope and Gunnies, (In large or small lots.) INGHAM, SWIFT & CO. Corner of Market and Clark streets. Dec'd-2m

CRUSHED SUGAR.—5 Bbls. LOVERING'S 1st Bbls. NEW ORLEANS SUGAR, 2 Bbls. PALM SOAP, 5 Bbls. STAR CANDLES, 1 Keg SOIA, 5 Bags COFFEE. For sale by WM. LYON. Dec. 24-25